



Job Description

Title: Farm Educator
Supervisor: Farm Education Coordinator
Prepared By: Scott Weber, Farm Education Coordinator
Date Prepared: February 14, 2014

The Kalamazoo Nature Center is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to inspire people to care for the environment by providing experiences that lead them to understand their connection to the natural world.

Summary of Position:

The Farm Educator is a seasonal, part-time (24 hours/week) position from early-May through Labor Day, responsible for teaching programs for children and family audiences at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, (KNC). Program topics are focused on farming and benefits of healthy local food and may include working with our farm animals. This position includes garden and field work. The Farm Educator works with professional educators and directors, will gain hands-on farming experience, enjoy rich learning opportunities and gain a variety of teaching techniques and ideas. In addition to leading school and public programs, CSA programs, and farm camp programs, the Farm Educator will assist in preparing teaching materials and contribute their own creative ideas to programs. We are hiring for 1 position. This is an outdoor job that requires the ability to work in all natural conditions that do not threaten safety. The Farm Educator reports to the Farm Education Coordinator of the Kalamazoo Nature Center and works closely with all KNC staff.

Duties:

- Creatively plan and lead garden, nature based, and healthy food programs
- Teach preschool, kindergarten and school aged classes visiting DeLano Farms
- Present public programs for families, CSA members, and campers
- Develop and maintain teaching materials
- Work effectively and cooperatively with KNC staff and volunteers
- Complete special projects as assigned by the Farm Education Coordinator and Education Director.

Entrance Requirements:

- Must be 18+ years of age and able to work in adverse conditions such as heat, rain and wind performing strenuous manual labor.
- Demonstrate ability in youth behavioral management and solid outdoor interpretation skills.
- Effective public communication skills with youth and adults.
- General understanding of gardening and taking care of the crops
- Must have a good attitude, with a willingness to be flexible and a commitment to achieving the goals of the DeLano Farms while supporting the mission of the Kalamazoo Nature Center
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Ability to work independently and as part of a diverse team
- Creative and high energy
- Self-starter and self-directed with initiative
- Able to lift 50 pounds

To apply: Submit resume, cover letter and 3 professional references

Send to: Scott Weber, Farm Education Coordinator

E-mail: sweber@naturecenter.org (preferred)

Postal address: Kalamazoo Nature Center
7000 N. Westnedge Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-6309

Phone: 269.381.1574 x 26

Fax: 269.381.2557

Website: www.naturecenter.org

Application Deadline: March 14, 2014

Because we value the strength diversity brings to the workplace, the Kalamazoo Nature Center is committed to the recruitment, retention, and development of a workforce that reflects the society in which we live.

The Kalamazoo Nature Center is an equal opportunity organization that will not discriminate in its programs or hiring practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, ethnic origin, physical or mental disability, veteran status, height, weight, sexual orientation or gender identity, marital status, or political affiliation.